ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: NORTE-500A

SERIAL NO.: 10/662,779

FILE DATE: September 15, 2003

TITLE: DISTRIBUTED INTERCONNECT

**Examiner Steve Jones** 

FAX NO.: (571) 273-1762

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	Application Number	10/662,779				
TRANSMITTAL	Filing Date	09/15/2003				
FORM	First Named Inventor	Kent E. Peterson				
(to be used for all correspondence after Initial filing)	Art Unit	2817				
	Examiner Name	Stephen E. Jones				
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	Altorney Docket Number	NORTE-500A				
	ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)					
Fee Transmittal Form  Fee Attached  Amendment/Repty  After Final  Affidavits/declaration(s)  Extension of Time Request  Express Abandonment Request  Information Disclosure Statement  Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application  Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	Drawing(s)  Licensing-related Papers  Petition Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Add Terminal Disclaimer Request for Refund CD, Number of CD(s) emarks	After Allowance Communication to Group Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Repty Brief) Proprietary Information Status Letter X Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Election with Traverse (of 3 pages); Certificate of Mailing; and Retrun Postcard.				
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Petent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Application No.: 10/662,779

Response to Election of Species Requirement of August 31, 2004

Attorney Docket: NORTE-500A

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:	Kent E. Peterson	)	Confirmation No.	2186
Serial No.:	10/622,779	)	Art Unit:	2817
Filed:	September 15, 2003	)	Examiner:	Stephen E. Jones
For:	Distributed Interconnect	ý		

## **ELECTION WITH TRAVERSE**

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Election of Species Requirement of August 31, 2004, the time set for a response being one (1) month from the mailing date from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, i.e. September 30, 2004, Applicant hereby elects, with traverse, the species which is directed to Figure 2. Applicant notes that Claims 1-8 and 18-24 are believed to be readable on the elected species, and, as the Examiner has noted, Claims 1 and 18 are generic.

The above elections are made with traverse for the reasons set herein below.

In the official action of August 31, 2004 the Examiner asserted that the application contains claims directed to distinct species including:

<u>SPECIES</u>		<u>FIGURES</u>
I.		2;
II.		3;
III.	,	5;
IV.		-7;
V.		9; and

03/22/2005 11:07 9498551246 STETINA!BRUNDA PAGE 05

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VI.

10.

The Examiner has required an election of one of the aforementioned species.

Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has omitted one (1) of the two (2) criteria for a proper restriction requirement now established by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office policy. That is, as set forth in MPEP §803, "An appropriate explanation" must be advanced by the Examiner as to the existence of a "serious burden" if the restriction requirement were not required.

While the Examiner has alleged a possible distinction between the identified species, the Examiner has not shown that a concurrent examination of species, would present a "serious burden". Applicant respectfully submits that the search for the combination of features recited in the claims of the individual species, if not totally co-extensive, would appear to have a very substantial degree of overlap. Because the search for each species of invention is substantially the same, Applicant submits that no undue or serious burden would be presented in concurrently examining Species 1-6. Thus, for the above-noted reasons, in consistent with the office policy set forth above in MPEP §803, Applicant respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the species requirement in this application.

Furthermore it is noted that Species I, Figure 2 and Species III, Figure 5 are merely variants of similar embodiments thus at a minimum, Applicant requests the Examiner to consider Figures 2 and 5 to be the same species.

For all of the above reasons, the Examiner election of species is believed to be improper. Nevertheless, Applicant has elected, with traverse, the invention defined by Figure 2, i.e. Claims 1-8 and 18-24, in which at least Claim 1 and 18 are generic, in the event that the Examiner chooses not to reconsider and withdraw the election of the instant species requirement.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone listed below.

Application No.: 10/662,779

Response to Election of Species Requirement of August 31, 2004

Attorney Docket: NORTE-500A

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account Number 19-4330.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 15, 2004 By:

Customer No.: 007663 Bruce B. Brunda Registration No. 28,497

STETINA BRUNDA GARRED & BRUCKER

75 Enterprise, Suite 250 Aliso Viejo, California 92656

Telephone: (949) 855-1246

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(BBB/dp)

Docket Number: NORTE-500A

PAGE 7/8 \* RCVD AT 3/22/2005 2:05:13 PM [Eastern Standard Time] \* SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/24 \* DNIS:2731762 \* CSID:9498551246 \* DURATION (mm-ss):02-38

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